

Department of Energy

Ohio Field Office Fernald Area Office

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JUN 30 1999

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V-SRF-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

DOE-0899-99

Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
401 East 5th Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

OPERABLE UNIT 1 FORECAST SCHEDULE FOR THE WASTE PITS REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT

As you are aware, in our letter to you dated December 23, 1998, the Department of Energy (DOE) forecasted that excavation of the Waste Pits would commence by July 1, 1999, and full-scale operation including dryer operation would begin by August 15, 1999. As we have discussed with you during the weekly telephone conference calls and at our meeting of June 24, 1999, we will not meet these forecast dates. All of the systems required to commence these operations, including the waste water treatment system are not yet available. In addition, Fluor Daniel Fernald, Inc. (FDF) responses to all the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) comments on the Draft Final Remedial Action Package (RAWP) need to be submitted and approved.

As recognized by all parties at the June 24TH meeting, the approval by the EPAs of the Draft Final Remedial Action Package is a prerequisite to startup of operations. Given that technical issues whose closures cannot be accurately forecasted remain unresolved, the purpose of this letter is to advise you of a modification in the forecast schedule for the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project.

At present, DOE is advising August 1, 1999, as the date when more accurate scheduled forecast dates will be established for the startup of operations. By that time we anticipate that all agency comments on the RAWP will have been satisfactorily addressed, the associated plans approved and a clearer understanding of facility readiness will be available. DOE is pleased with the successes and tangible results this project has

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produced and will keep the positive momentum on the project energized. It is DOE's goal in establishing this date that there be no disruption in the ongoing shipments to Envirocare, and there is no adverse impact to the overall project schedule foreseen.

Please contact Dave Lojek at (513) 648-3127 if you have any questions or comments regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FEMP:Lojek

cc:

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